

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 COME-00

MCT-02 HA-05 IO-13 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00

ACDA-12 AID-05 PC-01 /090 W

-----046698 311633Z /44

O R 311600Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7651

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 4090

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MILI, PGOV, NU

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN MATAGALPA

REF: MANAGUA 4077

1. ACCORDING TO GON-CONTROLLED MORNING DAILY NOVEDADES, ALL IS QUIET IN MATAGALPA. THE NEWSPAPER FRONT-PAGES PHOTO OF ARCHBISHOP OBANDO Y BRAVO TOGETHER WITH ISMAEL REYES, PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA RED CROSS. THE REPORT STATES THAT THE ARCHBISHOP MEDIATED BETWEEN THE NATIONAL GUARD AND THE INSURGENTS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON (AUG 30). THE INSURGENTS DEMANDED FREEDOM FOR PRISONERS TAKEN DURING THE FIGHTING, ASSURANCES OF NO RE-PRISALS, NO CUTOFF OF FOODSTUFFS AND WATER, AND THAT THE AUTHORITIES CEASE USING FORCE.

2. THE AUTHORITIES RESPONDED THAT THE GUARDIA WOULD NOT TAKE MEASURES IF THE INSURGENTS WOULD ABANDON THEIR ARMS AND HAND THEM OVER TO THE RED CROSS. THE GUARDIA COMMANDER SAID THAT THE AUTHORITIES WOULD CONTINUE ITS DUTIES OF NORMAL VIGILANCE
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BUT IF THEY ARE ATTACKED, THEY NORMAL VIGILANCE BUT IF THEY ARE ATTACKED, THEY WILL RESPOND IN LIKE MANNER. THE REPORT ENDS BY SAYING THAT THE ARCHBISHOP LEFT TO DELIVER THIS RESPONSE TO THE ARMED INSURGENTS AND THAT AS OF LAST NIGHT THE CITY OF MATAGALPA WAS CALM THROUGHOUT.

3. ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL GUARDIA NACIONAL STATEMENT CARRIED

IN NOVEDADES, TWO AIRCRAFT (CESSNA 02S, ACCORDING TO OTHER GN SOURCES) HAD FIRED AGAINST SNIPERS WHO WERE LOCATED IN THE HOUSES AND THE FIELDS OF THE HIGH, HILLY FIELDS SURROUNDING THE CITY AND KILLED SOME OF THEM DURING THE PAST TWO DAYS. REPORT STATES THAT FOUR MEMBERS OF THE GUARDIA HAVE BEEN GRAVELY WOUNDED BY SHOTS FROM THE INSURGENTS.
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Message Attributes

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